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B063

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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 CIAE-00 ICA-11 DODE-00 NSAE-00
HA-06 PA-01 SP-02 SPRS-02 /049 W
-----131406 111146Z /10

R 102046Z MAR 81
FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0873
INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
JSCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PN

[REDACTED] ASUNCION 0879

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, PA
SUBJECT: TWO NEWSMEN STILL DETAINED

REF: ASUNCION 0725

.. (U) POLICE AUTHORITIES RELEASED ONE MORE DETAINED NEWSPAPERMAN, THE ARGENTINE, ROLANDO CHAPARRO, AT THE END OF FEBRUARY. HOWEVER, THE FIRST NEWSMAN TO BE PICKED UP, HERNANDO SEVILLA, DETAINED ON FEBRUARY 6 AND JUAN ANDRES CARDOZO, DETAINED ON FEBRUARY 21, ARE STILL BEING HELD INCOMMUNICADO BY THE INVESTIGATIONS POLICE. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT SEVILLA, WHO MAY HAVE HAD CONNECTIONS WITH LEFTISTS WHEN HE LIVED IN ARGENTINA, MENTIONED THE NAMES OF THE OTHER NEWSMEN UNDER QUESTIONING. THREE OF THESE WERE RELEASED AFTER APPROXIMATELY A WEEK'S DETENTION, (REFTEL). THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT SEVILLA AND CARDOZO MAY NOT BE RELEASED VERY SOON.

.. [REDACTED] ACCORDING TO PRESS SOURCES CHAPARRO CLAIMED THAT HE HAD SEEN SEVILLA IN THE INVESTIGATIONS POLICE, THAT HE WAS IN VERY BAD CONDITION FROM PHYSICAL MISTREATMENT, AND THAT HE HAD TRIED TO COMMIT SUICIDE. EMBASSY HAS REASON TO BELIEVE [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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CHAPARRO'S STATEMENT IS CORRECT.

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ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full Decontrol

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to

Date ☐ Declassify on ☐ Reason

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3. [REDACTED] THE PARAGUAYAN JOURNALISTS UNION, THE PARAGUAYAN COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND VARIOUS OTHER POLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS HAVE DENOUNCED WHAT THEY CHARGE IS THE GOVERNMENT'S ILLEGAL ARREST AND DETENTION OF THESE NEWSMEN. THESE ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WHICH CARDOZO IS A MEMBER, ARE CONTINUING TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO GOP AUTHORITIES ON THEIR BEHALF.

4. (U) AN ADDITIONAL NEWSMAN, FELIX RUIZ, IS STILL BEING BOUGHT BY THE POLICE. THE RECTOR OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY HAS RECENTLY PUBLICLY INTERVENED IN RUIZ'S CASE, SEEKING GUARANTEES THAT HE WILL BE TREATED ACCORDING TO THE LAW IF HE IS UNDER OFFICIAL CUSTODY.

LANE

[REDACTED]
JVVZCZ

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